

Budget Proposal in House Contains Largest Ever Increase in Veteran's Funding, New Spending for Ohio and Restores Fiscal Sanity to Washington

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-17) cast his vote in support of H. Con. Resolution 99, the Budget Resolution, today as part of a coalition committed to restoring fiscal discipline and setting a new direction for America. The budget, which seeks to balance the nation's finances by 2012, also includes spending on critical priorities such as veterans, healthcare, education and protecting the environment.

"I believe we've taken a great step forward with this budget bill," said Congressman Tim Ryan. "We've set a new direction for America and I am especially gratified with what we've provided for the Veterans Administration. I believe we've equipped our VA with the tools they need to take care of every one of the 24,000 wounded soldiers coming home from this devastating war in Iraq."

The House budget provides for the largest veterans' budget increase in American history - \$3.5 billion more this year (\$32 billion over the next five years) for veterans' health care than the President's budget. These additional resources will provide needed health care for new veterans, repair VA health care facilities, make overdue investments in veterans' mental health care and traumatic brain injury as well as speed up and improve disability claims processing.

This budget also restores funding cut by the President to the Small Business Administration and provides nearly \$8 billion more for education and workforce training. In addition, the House budget passed today protects Homeland Security money for Ohio.

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